

Editorial

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The first article of this issue is authored by Matthias Bank, Martin Larch, and Georg Peter. They document a positive relationship between public interest as measured by Google search volume and liquidity and future returns on the German stock market.

The second article also addresses an informational issue, but in a different context. Authors Andy Fodor, Kevin Krieger, and James S. Doran investigate the relationship and forecasting power of open interest in the option markets with respect to future equity returns. They provide empirical support for the hypothesis that information is first revealed in derivatives markets.

In the third article of this issue, Andre Guettler, Ulrich Hommel, and Julia Reichert analyze the default rates of residential mortgage backed securities by looking at firm characteristics of sponsors and underwriters. Whereas loan pools from more reputable sponsors seem to be subject to fewer losses, the authors find some evidence that reputable and large underwriters take advantage of informational asymmetries.

This issue's Perspectives article, authored by Martin Wallmeier, addresses structured financial products for retail investors. The representation of communication of the risk involved in those products has drawn increased attention since the Lehman default. The author proposes new measures accounting for several sources of risk.

In the first book review in this issue, Stephan Süss discusses the book "Option Trading" by Euan Sinclair.

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The second book review is written by Dustin Schütte. It covers the book titled “Regulating Wall Street—The Dodd–Frank Act and the New Architecture of Global Finance.” The authors are Viral V. Acharya, Thomas F. Cooley, Matthew P. Richardson, and Ingo Walter.

Finally, I would like to mention the *Call for Papers* included in this issue for the 2012 Conference of the Swiss Society for Financial Market Research. The submission deadline is November 4, 2011. We hope for many interesting articles!